



General Assembly

February Session, 2008

Raised Bill No. 399

LCO No. 1426

01426_____CE_

Referred to Committee on Commerce

Introduced by:
(CE)

AN ACT CONCERNING REGULATORY RELIEF FOR SMALL BUSINESSES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) For purposes of this section,
2 "small business" means a business entity, including its affiliates, that
3 (1) is independently owned and operated, and (2) employs fewer than
4 fifty full-time employees or has gross annual sales of less than five
5 million dollars, provided that the task force established in subsection
6 (b) of this section, in undertaking the study required pursuant to this
7 section, may define "small business" to include a greater number of
8 full-time employees if necessary to meet the needs and address specific
9 problems of small businesses.

10 (b) There is established a task force to study ways to provide
11 regulatory relief for small businesses. Such study shall include, but not
12 be limited to, (1) a review of current state-imposed record-keeping,
13 reporting and other requirements, the cost of such requirements to
14 small businesses and ways in which such requirements may be
15 eliminated or streamlined, (2) consideration of the treatment of small
16 businesses in the regulation-making process and of the effect of

17 regulatory requirements on small businesses, (3) a review of the state's
18 business tax system, including, but not limited to, a review of the
19 business entity tax, and (4) recommendations for future limits on such
20 requirements.

21 (c) The task force shall consist of the following members:

22 (1) Two representatives of a state-wide business group, appointed
23 by the speaker of the House of Representatives;

24 (2) Two persons who currently or in the past have owned or
25 managed a small business, appointed by the president pro tempore of
26 the Senate;

27 (3) One representative of a state-wide labor group, appointed by the
28 majority leader of the House of Representatives;

29 (4) One representative of a state-wide consumer group, appointed
30 by the majority leader of the Senate;

31 (5) One person with expertise in the economic development
32 potential of small businesses, appointed by the minority leader of the
33 House of Representatives;

34 (6) One representative of a state-wide local government group,
35 appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;

36 (7) Two persons who currently or in the past have owned or
37 managed a small business, appointed by the Governor;

38 (8) The Commissioners of Economic and Community Development,
39 Revenue Services and Environmental Protection, or said
40 commissioners' designees;

41 (9) The chairpersons and cochairpersons of the joint standing
42 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
43 relating to commerce, or their designees; and

44 (10) The Business Advocate, created pursuant to section 32-725 of
45 the general statutes.

46 (d) All appointments to the task force shall be made not later than
47 thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be
48 filled by the appointing authority.

49 (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president
50 pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task force
51 from among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall
52 schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not
53 later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

54 (f) The administrative staff of the Office of the Business Advocate, in
55 coordination with the administrative staff of the joint standing
56 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
57 relating to commerce, shall serve as administrative staff of the task
58 force.

59 (g) Not later than January 1, 2010, the task force shall submit a
60 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing
61 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
62 relating to commerce, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-
63 4a of the general statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date
64 that it submits such report or January 1, 2010, whichever is later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
-----------	---------------------	-------------

Statement of Purpose:

To establish a task force to study ways to provide regulatory relief for small businesses.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]